

The Intelligencer.

FREE SCHOOLS.

The Chapter on that Subject Reported to the Convention.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, FINANCIAL CORPORATIONS AND EDUCATION, ON THE SUBJECT OF FREE COMMON SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Taxation and Financial Corporations and Education, to whom were referred various resolutions on the subject of education, having had the same under consideration, respectfully beg leave to submit the following:

REPORT.

1. The Legislature shall provide, by general law, for a thorough and efficient system of free common schools, whereby all the children of this State may receive a good common school education.

2. The State Superintendent of Free Schools shall have a general supervision of free common schools, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by law. The Legislature may provide for County Superintendents and such other officers as may be necessary to carry out the objects of this article, and define the duties, powers and compensation of such officers by general law.

3. All grants, devises or bequests that may be made to this State for the purpose of education, or where the purposes of such grants, devises or bequests are not specified, the State's just share of the literary fund of Virginia, whether paid over or otherwise liquidated, and any sums of money, stocks or property which this State shall be entitled to claim from the State of Virginia for educational purposes, the proceeds of the estates of persons who may die without leaving a will or heir, and all lands or the proceeds of the sale of the same that may be donated to the State for educational purposes, shall be set apart as a separate fund, to be called the permanent school fund, and shall be invested under such regulations as may be prescribed by law in the interest-bearing securities of the United States or of this State; and the interest thereon shall be annually applied to the support of free common schools throughout the State, and to no other purpose whatever.

4. The Legislature shall annually appropriate for the support of such schools, the interest of the permanent school fund, the net proceeds of all forfeitures and fines accruing to the State under the laws of this State, and the proceeds of the sale of the lands of delinquent, waste and escheated lands; all moneys that may be paid for exemption from military duty; the State capitation tax; the proceeds of any taxes that may be levied on the revenues of any corporation in this State; and all such sums as may be raised by general law on property or on the sale of the same, the said tax on property shall not exceed in any one year fifteen cents per hundred dollars valuation.

5. In any county of the State, or in any district into which the said county may be divided for common school purposes, there shall be levied by taxation uniform with the jurisdiction having the same, a sum sufficient, with the distributable school fund derived from the State, to maintain in the said county or districts a school for at least three months in the year; provided the said tax, so levied shall not exceed thirty cents per hundred dollars valuation. The proceeds of the said tax, so levied, shall be paid to the county or district school for a longer period than three months; but the said levy, so made, shall never, in any one year, exceed twenty cents per hundred dollars valuation.

6. In order to provide for the necessary grounds and school houses, keep them in repair and pay all incidental expenses connected with the operation of the schools other than the salaries of teachers and county superintendents, the county or district authorities shall create a fund to be called "The Building Fund" to be appropriated exclusively to these purposes. To supply the necessary revenue for this fund they may borrow money upon their credit and levy an annual tax upon the taxable property of the county or district. The money so borrowed, together with the necessary annual expenditure shall never in the aggregate amount to more than can be paid by a levy at the rate of twenty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation per year, for five successive years. The counties or the districts into which they may be divided for common school purposes, shall be liable for all debts incurred for any school property to which they may succeed, and which may remain unpaid by the authorities creating the said debts.

7. All levies laid by any county or district, for the purpose of free common schools, shall be reported by the authorities thereof to the State Superintendent of Free Schools, who shall collect and receive the same in such manner as shall be prescribed by general law. The compensation for collecting said levies shall never exceed three per cent, and no allowance shall be made for the disbursement of the same. All money borrowed on account of the Building Fund, or any other fund accruing thereto, shall be paid into the hands of the Sheriff, and he shall disburse upon proposed orders without compensation. The Sheriff shall give such security for the safe keeping and ascertainment of the school funds as the Legislature shall direct, and make with the proper authorities of the counties, which shall be audited by the county courts and made matter of record by the clerks thereof in a book to be kept for that purpose.

8. The Legislature shall make provision for the free common school education of colored children in the several counties or districts in which a provision with their number of white children therein; but white and colored persons shall not be taught in the same school.

9. No person connected with the free common school system of the State, or any educational institution, of any name or grade under State control, shall be interested in any stock, bonds or profits of any bank or other thing used or to be used therein, under such penalties as may be prescribed by law.

10. No appropriation, grant or donation of any public money or property whatsoever shall ever be made by the State in aid of any church or sectarian purposes, nor to support or sustain in whole or in part any school or other institution of any grade or name controlled by any church or denomination.

11. No independent free common school district or organization shall hereafter be created, and the Legislature may repeal in whole or in part any laws authorizing those already in existence, on such terms as may be deemed just and equitable.

12. The duty of the common trotting mare Goldenhild Maid is doing duty in a milk wagon, near Fort Jervis, N. Y., while her daughter is queen of the turf in America.

The New York Tribune thinks New York is really in need of a great disaster to teach it caution about fires.

Corvado and the Whiskey.

Washington Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.

I do not know whether the doctor used to prescribe whiskey for Corvado, or not; but I presume he did, for Uncle John was too feeble a man to drink whiskey unless it was good for him. At any rate, he used to keep it in his room, and drink some when he felt a little faint. He came from a whiskey producing district, and the boys used to say that he always had on hand a nice reserve. In those days, before we had any Congressional Temperance Societies, when McDougal, Yates and such kindred spirits were in their prime, whiskey used to be sold at the restaurants in the Capitol, and it was not unfrequently kept in some of the committee-rooms.

If the chairman of a committee was biliously inclined, and had two or three of the same faculty on the committee with him, the chances were that a thirsty soul could always find comfort in that room. Corvado, at that time, was Chairman of the Committee of Public Buildings and Grounds, the same over which Mr. Halsey, of New Jersey, now so ably presides. There was not much business for the committee, as the room was a large one, and some one, with lounges, and arm chairs, and all the inviting influences, besides, it was convenient. It was handy for the members to run into during the long debates, to smoke a cigar and have a chat, and at almost any hour in the day a party of jolly members might be found in that room, drinking, smoking, and selling stories. The whiskey was plenty, Corvado was liberal with it; case after case came to his address from Pennsylvania—a dozen bottles, two dozen bottles, a small keg, a demijohn, all sorts.

GOING TOO FAR.

One day, early in the session, Corvado told one of his friends that there was a good deal of whiskey drunk in that room. His friend seemed utterly indifferent to the information, merely answering "I suppose so." "Well," said Corvado, "I don't so much object to the boys drinking all they want, but I don't want them to walk out with it in wholesale. I'm not ambitious to keep a wholesale establishment. A fair retail business is all I care for. They may come here if they're my friends, and drink as they want, but I don't want them to walk out with it. I don't want them to take a bottle to-day, a demijohn to-morrow, and a keg the next day."

"Have a new lock put on your waistband, then."

"That's a good idea," said Uncle John; "it's a wonder I hadn't thought of it before." A new lock was put on the waistband—a large, heavy-duty lock, with a key that would open it. The new lock did not seem to work very satisfactorily. A day or two after it was adjusted, the whole store, about a dozen strong, was taken. The first day the lock was changed again; no use—more whiskey gone mysteriously. Finally, a very intricate and complicated lock was put on. Then the robbery was to stop. The very next night a demijohn disappeared.

It was but natural that by this time Uncle John should be discouraged and unhappy. Still, he could not give up the luxury and satisfaction of having something nice about him all the time. It was pleasant to give a friend a drink once in a while, and it was sociable, and finally he got mad and swore he would be dogged if he wouldn't keep a little stock in the room, and he would be dogged if he wouldn't allow anybody to steal it, either. So he set a trap. A new stock had arrived that day, and he put it in the waistband, as usual. After the House adjourned, he concealed himself in the room and waited. He did not have to wait long. He heard two men of feet tip-toeing up to the door. He hid low. The first man was a key was turned in the lock, and then two men entered. From his hiding place Uncle John peeped out and recognized two wagish Democratic members, who were fond of his joke, but still fond of Uncle John's whiskey. Still Uncle John laid low, but kept his eyes open. The first man walked straight to the cash stand and deliberately lifted off the marble top. That was all, but it was enough for Uncle John! He kept quiet, however, until they had handed out two or three bottles. Then he stepped out and said:

"There's a consideration on one side as may be imagined and anger on the other, but these sons gave way to laughter, and laughter was succeeded by drinks. It was a good joke on both sides, but Uncle John Corvado, to the day of his death, never forgave the Democratic party that trick."

Sherman's Exhibit of the Finances.

From the Tribune.

Senator Sherman's speech on the finances, yesterday, was an effective argument in favor of protection to home industry and against the continuance of any internal revenue taxes which can be spared from the schedule. He shows that the taxes already repealed yielded \$233,000,000, and that we now have a surplus of \$50,000,000 to be applied to such subjects of taxation as most need relief. He shows that the duties on foreign goods should be reduced to the benefit of this Americanization. Mr. Sherman suggests that with the proposed reduction should come abolition of the franking privilege, a close scrutiny of the pension list, the reduction of public printing, limitation of expenditures public or buildings, and a summary cut-off of expenditures which grew out of the war, but have survived it. The Senator is not in favor of the House plan of reducing taxation by applying the reduction to such articles as coal, salt, tea, and coffee, but he argues that the Internal Revenue system of taxation, an offspring of the war, unpopular and inequitable, should be abandoned. He favors customs duties on all goods which are purely articles of luxury, or which enter into competition with American manufactures; and he consents to the freedom of all raw productions of nature. Foreign productions which enter into competition with domestic fabrics should be taxed, while those which are absorbed in domestic manufactures should, he thinks, be free.

Dr. PRIMER, in his "Travels in Japan," says: "Passing through a street and seeing some forty or fifty coppers hanging on many nails at the front of a shop (the copper coin has a hole in the centre), I inquired what they were for, and was told they were placed there by the shopkeeper to save time and trouble in answering the calls of the mendicants. When a poor fellow came along he simply took a copper and passed on, never abusing the charity of the shopkeeper by taking two."

The famous Koecker divorce suit, which has been dragging for years through the Philadelphia courts, ended on Monday by the divorced family publicly embracing and agreeing to kiss and be kissed in the future. The parties are people of standing and fortune.

The Rev. Robert Gouger's congregation have decided to rebuild their Church, destroyed in the Chicago fire, on a much grander scale. The Chicago, 165 feet high, will, Port Jervis, N. Y., while her daughter is queen of the turf in America.

This saying is ascribed to John Brown: "It is a mighty big thing for a man to do all he can."

A NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ON A SOUTHERN RAILROAD WHO, IN DEFERENCE TO THE FEELINGS OF THE SINGLE LADY PRESENT, REFRAINED FROM INDULGING THEIR SMOKING PROPENSITIES, FELT THAT THEIR COURTESY WAS UNAPPRECIATED WHEN THE SINGLE LADY DREW A WELL-WORN MATCHBOOK FROM HER POCKET, AND WITH TIMBLE FINGERS PROCEEDED TO FILL IT WITH THE STRONGEST OF VIRGINIA LEAF.

JUDGE DAVID DAVIS weighs 300 pounds but he will have to increase his wait a good deal before he achieves the Presidential chair.—Chicago Post.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, March 16.—FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.

GRAIN—Wheat—No. 3 spring Chicago unchanged and irregular at \$1.34, cash.

Oats—Dull, and prices have declined; No. 2, 29 1/2c. Rye—Quiet and unchanged. Barley—Dull and weaker at 49c.

PROVISIONS—Cass—Pork—Easier at \$11.24 1/2, mess; \$11.13, April. Bulk Meats—Unchanged. Lard—Steam, \$8.05.

HONEYWINE—Excited, and prices higher; 85c; closed with 85c offered.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, March 16.—FLOUR—Dull and heavy; superfine western and State, \$5.20; common to good extra, \$4.45.

GRAIN—Wheat—Dull and heavy; No. 1, 78 1/2c; extra, \$1.04 1/2; No. 2, 75c; No. 3, 72 1/2c; No. 4, 70c; No. 5, 67 1/2c; No. 6, 65c; No. 7, 62 1/2c; No. 8, 60c; No. 9, 57 1/2c; No. 10, 55c; No. 11, 52 1/2c; No. 12, 50c; No. 13, 47 1/2c; No. 14, 45c; No. 15, 42 1/2c; No. 16, 40c; No. 17, 37 1/2c; No. 18, 35c; No. 19, 32 1/2c; No. 20, 30c; No. 21, 27 1/2c; No. 22, 25c; No. 23, 22 1/2c; No. 24, 20c; No. 25, 17 1/2c; No. 26, 15c; No. 27, 12 1/2c; No. 28, 10c; No. 29, 7 1/2c; No. 30, 5c; No. 31, 2 1/2c; No. 32, 0c.

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